

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

Please amend the claims as shown in the following claim listing. The claim listing replaces all prior claim versions and claim listings in the application:

Claim 1 (Currently Amended) A gas bag module for a motor vehicle steering wheel, the gas bag module comprising a gas bag, a gas generator mounted so as to be capable of swinging in order to amortize vibrations, a generator carrier, means for bracing the gas bag on the generator carrier, and an elastically deformable, in relation to a central axis of the gas bag module encircling sealing element, the sealing element being fastened by free edge portions of said sealing element directly or indirectly to the gas generator and to the generator carrier, respectively, in order to seal an interior of the gas bag from a space between the gas generator and the generator carrier before and on filling of the gas bag, a middle section of the sealing element, which is free before the filling of the gas bag, being deflected by the pressure occurring in the interior of the gas bag on filling of the gas bag, so that the middle section comes directly or indirectly in abutment with a support surface, the middle section of the sealing element being constructed in a wave-form and projecting between the gas generator and the support surface.

Claim 2 (Previously Presented) The gas bag module according to claim 1, wherein the gas generator is at least partially supported in the gas bag module by the sealing element.

Claim 3 (Previously Presented) The gas bag module according to claim 1, wherein in that the sealing element is constructed in the manner of a cylinder and has a wave-like contour in cross-section.

Claim 4 (Previously Presented) The gas bag module according to claim 1, wherein in that a free edge portion of the sealing element is fastened to a mounting flange of the gas generator.

Claim 5 (Previously Presented) The gas bag module according to claim 1, wherein in that the support surface is formed on a section of the generator carrier.

Claim 6 (Canceled).

Claim 7 (Previously Presented) A gas bag module for a motor vehicle steering wheel, the gas bag module comprising a gas bag, a gas generator mounted so as to be capable of swinging, a generator carrier, means for bracing the gas bag on the generator carrier, and an elastically deformable, in relation to a central axis of the gas bag module encircling sealing element, the sealing element being fastened by free edge portions of the sealing element directly or indirectly to the gas generator and to the generator carrier, respectively, a middle section of the sealing element, which is free before a filling of the gas bag, being deflected by the pressure occurring in an interior of the gas bag on filling of the gas bag, so that the middle section comes directly or indirectly in abutment with a support surface, wherein the support surface is formed on an intermediate element arranged on the gas generator.

Claim 8 (Previously Presented) A gas bag module for a motor vehicle steering wheel, the gas bag module comprising a gas bag, a gas generator mounted so as to be capable of swinging in order to amortize vibrations, a generator carrier and means for bracing the gas bag on the generator carrier, the gas generator being deflected by the pressure occurring in an interior of the gas bag on filling of the gas bag, so that the gas generator is pressed against a support surface formed on the generator carrier, a sealing element being provided between the gas generator and the support surface, the sealing element sealing the interior of the gas bag from a space between the gas generator and the generator carrier on filling of the gas bag.

Claim 9 (Previously Presented) A gas bag module for a motor vehicle steering wheel, the gas bag module comprising a gas bag, a gas generator mounted so as to be capable of swinging, a generator carrier and means for bracing the gas bag on the generator carrier, the gas generator being deflected by the pressure occurring in an interior of the gas bag on filling of the gas bag, so that the gas generator is pressed against a support surface formed on the generator carrier, a sealing element being provided between the gas generator and the support surface, wherein an encircling mounting flange of the gas generator is pressed onto the support surface.

Claim 10 (Previously Presented) The gas bag module according to claim 8, wherein the sealing element is fastened on one side of a mounting flange of the gas generator.

Claim 11 (Previously Presented) The gas bag module according to claim 8, wherein the sealing element is fastened on the support surface.

Claim 12 (Previously Presented) A gas bag module for a motor vehicle steering wheel, the gas bag module comprising a gas bag, a gas generator mounted so as to be capable of swinging, a generator carrier and means for bracing the gas bag on the generator carrier, the gas generator being deflected by the pressure occurring in an interior of the gas bag on filling of the gas bag, so that the gas generator is pressed against a support surface formed on the generator carrier, a sealing element being provided between the gas generator and the support surface, wherein the sealing element is an encircling sealing element, in particular a sealing ring.

Claim 13 (Previously Presented) The gas bag module according to claim 8, wherein several segments of an elastically deformable material are provided, distributed over the periphery of the gas generator, which are fastened directly or indirectly to the gas generator and to the generator carrier and by which the gas generator is at least partially supported in the gas bag module.